WSC GF-02
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3400 Forest Pest Management August 10, 1981

Functional Assistance Trip
Mt. Adams Ranger District

Forest Supervisor, Gifford Pinchot NF

On August 5, Gregory M. Filip and Donald J. Goheen, Pathologists at the Regional Office, visited the Mt. Adams Ranger District on the Gifford Pinchot National Forest. Purpose of the visit was to examine two active timber sale areas for root disease centers. The District will plan additional sales to treat disease centers in these sales if enough are found to justify such action.

The first area they visited was the Prince Sale, about 640 acres in size. The present stand is composed primarily of grand fir with some ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir. The stand was being harvested selectively to remove 30-40% of the basal area. A variety of size classes were being harvested. There was little evidence of tree wounding caused by felling and skidding operations.

Some root disease, caused primarily by *Armillaria mellea*, was noted in scattered clumps or individual grand firs. Many of the trees were suppressed or in overstocked situations. A few small disease centers, caused by *Phellinus weirii*, were also noted in grand fir. No large active disease centers caused by either *Armillaria* or *Phellinus* were observed. However, less than 10% of the area was examined, and large centers may exist in sections that were not investigated.

The second area visited was the Trough Sale, about 1,000 acres in size. The present stand is composed primarily of grand fir but with a larger component of ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir than in the Prince Sale. Some western larch was found also. The stand was being selectively harvested.

Similar to the Prince Sale, no large, active root disease centers were observed, but only a small portion of the sale area was examined.

It is recommended that both sale areas be examined systematically to locate and mark all active root disease centers as requested by the District. The District plans to treat marked areas by removing all susceptible tree species, retaining resistant species, if present, and planting with nonsusceptible species. In the immediate area, Douglas-fir and larch are more resistant to *Armillaria* than either ponderosa pine or grand fir. Ponderosa pine and larch are more resistant to *Phellinus* than either Douglas-fir or grand fir. Although infrequently observed in either sale areas, white pine is also somewhat resistant to both root rots and may be favored or planted in root disease centers, if blister

rust-resistant stock is used. Both sale areas can be hazard rated for blister rust to determine the degree of resistance needed. Forest Pest Management crews could accomplish this, along with the root disease survey in 1 to 2 weeks near the end of the summer.

If FPM can be of further assistance, please contact us.

PAUL E. BUFFAM

PAUL E. BUFFAM, Director
Forest Pest Management

cc: Ken Graves, SO
Jim Stewart, Mt. Adams RD

GMFilip/DJCoheen:mp